

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6262

BILL NUMBER: SB 44

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 21, 2005

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Environmental Committees.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Gard

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Wolkins

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill makes the Environmental Quality Service Council (EQSC) permanent. The bill also repeals the Compliance Advisory Panel and reestablishes the panel as a committee of the EQSC.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Currently, the Environmental Quality Service Council (EQSC) and the Air Pollution Compliance Advisory Panel (Panel) operate as two separate entities with two budgets under the rules of the Legislative Council. This bill makes it so they will operate as a single entity under one budget. Both the EQSC and the Panel will continue to address their currently assigned issues.

For the 2003 interim, the Panel met once and spent less than \$400 of its \$8,000 budget. After meeting six times, EQSC used approximately \$12,000 of its \$15,000 budget by the end of the interim.

For the 2004 interim, the Panel met once and spent less than \$600 of its \$8,000 budget. After meeting four times, EQSC used approximately \$7,500 of its \$15,000 budget by the end of the interim.

EQSC is set to expire December 2005, however, this bill makes EQSC permanent. The budgets that will be allocated to EQSC, beyond the 2005 interim, will depend on future resolutions passed by the Legislative Council. Interim committee expenses are paid from General Fund appropriations to the Legislative Council. Currently, the Legislator per diem is \$134 per member and the lay member per diem is \$75 per member.

The Legislative Services Agency staffs EQSC.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Legislative Services Agency.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Legislative Council Resolution 04-02.

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